

DATE 110758Z NOV 65

TOP SECRET

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PRIORITY

TO DIRECTOR

FROM [REDACTED]

ACTION:

INFO :

TOR 110834Z NOV 65

OPS 1-10

IN 71042

TO [REDACTED]

INFO

CITE CARD 2789

FOR GEN LEDFORD/ CUNNINGHAM FROM [REDACTED]

25X1A

NO NITE ACTION STAFF DUTY OFFICER PASS TO ABOVE

1. BOARD WILL CONCLUDE ITS ACTIVITIES BASED ON NO RECOVERY OF AIRCRAFT FRIDAY OR SATURDAY. PLAN TO RELEASE BOARD MEMBERS WITH EXCEPTION OF [REDACTED] AT THAT TIME. SEARCH

SALVAGE OPERATIONS BY [REDACTED] PERSONNEL ARE CONTINUING BUT HAVE BEEN HAMPERED BY STRONG SURFACE WINDS FOR PAST TWO DAYS. WEATHER FORECASTS HIGH WINDS FOR FRIDAY AND PROBABLY SATURDAY.

[REDACTED] AND I WILL REMAIN UNTIL THE AMERICAN DIVERS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM AT LEAST TWO DAYS OF SEARCH.

AT THAT TIME A DECISION WILL HAVE TO BE MADE RE CONTINUING OR ABANDONING SEARCH OPERATIONS. IF DECISION IS MADE TO CONTINUE, I PLAN TO REMAIN WITH [REDACTED] TO ASSURE ANALYSIS CAPABILITY IMMEDIATELY UPON RECOVERY OF WRECKAGE.

2. REQUEST YOUR APPROVAL OF ABOVE PLAN SOONEST AS 3 TO 4 DAYS LEAD TIME IS REQUIRED FOR AIRLINE BOOKING.

2789 (IN71042)

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3. WHILE BOARD PROCEEDINGS HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLETED AS YET FOLLOWING IS APPARENT:

A. PILOT IS FAR TOO BUSY IN COCKPIT WITH MAP BOARDS, GREEN CARD AND REQUIRED ENTRIES DURING FLIGHT TO PROPERLY MONITOR AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE DURING CRITICAL PHASES.

B. THIS FLIGHT DEMONSTRATED SOME LACK OF CONTINUITY IN PREPARATORY ACTIONS BY MAINTENANCE.

C. THERE IS NOTHING THUS FAR TO INDICATE A CATASTROPHIC SYSTEM FAILURE. HOWEVER, THIS HAS CERTAINLY NOT BEEN RULED OUT AND OUR INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING IN THIS AREA.

END OF MESSAGE

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